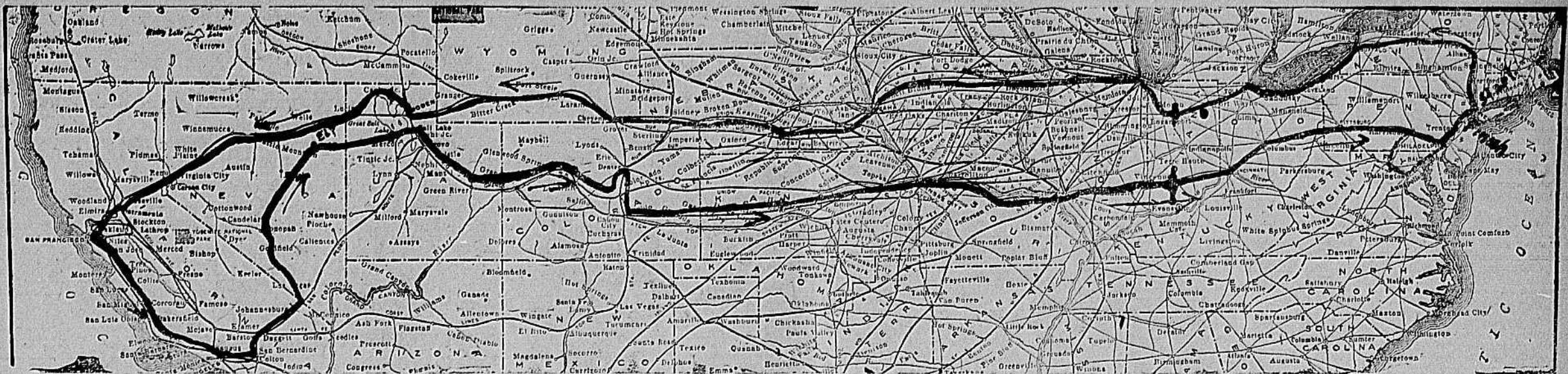


GASOLINE CONTEST FROM OCEAN TO OCEAN



SHOWING ROUTE OF PROPOSED CROSS THE CONTINENT AND RETURN MOTOR CAR RACE.

BOTH READY FOR FIGHT OF LIVES

"Tommy" Burns and "Jack" Johnson Training Hard at Sydney.

BURNS 5-TO-4 FAVORITE

Big Negro Realizes This Is His Most Important Battle.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., December 20.—"Tommy" Burns, the French Canadian heavyweight pugilist, and "Jack" Johnson, the American colored pugilist, who are to fight here on Saturday next for the heavyweight championship of the world, are both in the pink of condition. Hard work has made them fit for a long and hard battle, and although the odds favor Burns, Johnson has many supporters. Burns, who has been fighting since 1901, and has lost three battles—one to Marvin Hart, and the other to Joe Jeannette, at Philadelphia, on a foul.

Both of the men have been giving training exhibitions twice a week at the stadium, thousands watching their work. In this way they have gathered in a lot of money, part of which they will place on their chances. The public betting favors Burns at 5 to 4. A large amount has been put up on these figures. It is expected that 20,000 people will see the fight. No referee has been selected yet, but it is believed that a good man will be found within a day or two. Contracts for the picture rights are being made in all parts of the world.

When final count of the referee at Rushcutters Bay, Sydney, Australia, next Saturday proclaims Tommy Burns or Jack Johnson the world's champion heavyweight pugilist, adherents of the fighting game will have settled for the much-anticipated contest, which is the superior man. Since James J. Jeffries retired and Burns defiantly announced that he would defend the title against all comers—hating colored men—Johnson has camped on his trail, denying the right of Burns to draw the color line, and no little amount of opinion was stirred with the black man.

Despite the clamor, however, Burns persistently refused to accede to Johnson's demands. Nobody, however, doubted Burns' ability to give Johnson a good fight.

"Bill" Squires, the Australian, came across the seas with the championship belt and sought a fight from Jeffries. The Californian, however, was out of the game, and Burns took him on in San Francisco, defeating him in less than one round. Burns then went to London, where he knocked out "Sam" McMor, and afterwards whipped "Jem" Roghe, in Ireland, and several other heavyweights.

Johnson followed Burns to London and challenged him there. Burns declared he would fight if he could be assured of \$30,000, win, lose or draw; but this was not forthcoming, and Burns sailed for Australia, where he again trimmed "Bill" Squires. Eight days later he defeated Bill Lang.

Then the fight promoters at Sydney hung up a purse of \$35,000, and Burns cabled Johnson his ultimatum. This was that of the \$35,000. Burns was to receive \$30,000, despite the issue of the battle, Johnson's end to be \$5,000. Johnson accepted, and immediately left for Australia.

The fight will be to a finish in a twenty-four-foot ring, in the open air. Besides the purse of \$30,000, Burns

"TY" COBB PLAYED FOR DOLLAR-FIFTY

Georgian Peach Wasn't Sure He Could Deliver Goods, but Took Chance.

"Ty" Cobb, the Royston (Ga.) lad, who has developed into one of the greatest ball players the game has ever known, began his career in an unusual manner and at a very low figure. He was hired by Manager McKinney, of the Anderson (Ga.) team to play against Hartwell, Ga.

"Ty" dropped into Anderson the day before the big game. "Can you play ball?" "Ty" was asked. "I can play a little," he said; "not much at all." "How would you like to play with me? I'm short of men, and these fellows have got it in for me." "Guess I can," said "Ty." "I want you around to-morrow. I want you to play for me." Cobb took every chance, and some of the very finest, grandstand variety, and he hit some long ones that made the Hartwell boys think they were playing chess for the fox. At the end of the first inning the score stood 2 to 1 in favor of the Anderson aggregation, and the series was won.

After it was all over and the boys were arranging to go home, McKinney asked "Ty" what he owed him. "Dollar and a half, I guess." And the amount was paid.

McKinney talked "Ty" Cobb good and hard when he got back home, and the very year he got a tryout with Augusta. Before the season had started good, however, he was sent home because he was too slow.

Later on the Augusta team had trouble and got short of men. "Ty" was again sent for and finished the season, making good from the first day.

HAVANA RACES. Havana, December 20.—Racing results at Alameda Park. First race, five and a half furlongs—Won by Domino; Donahue, second; Governor, third. Time, 1:09. Second race, five and a half furlongs—Won by Bustanad; Sister Phyllis, second; Roseburg II, third. Time, 1:11. Third race, five and a half furlongs—Won by Imposition; Jack McKee, second; Brimmer, third. Time, 1:10. Fourth race, six furlongs—Won by Halifax; Sallie Preston, second; Select, third. Time, 1:15. Fifth race, mile—Won by Jupiter; Arlet Dodger, second; George Bailey, third. Time, 1:43. Sixth race, mile and a sixteenth—Won by Blister Hand; Water Cooler, second; Melange, third. Time, 1:48.

LOVELL MASS, December 20.—In a sensational raid on a cocking main in Draught to-night forty-two men were arrested and eight or ten more escaped in a dash through a window. Churches were just closing their morning services, and thousands of people were on the streets when a special electric car, containing the officers and prisoners, arrived here. Many of the prisoners were well known, and their appearance in custody created a sensation. In addition to Lowell citizens, there were men from Woburn, Lawrence, Haverhill and surrounding towns.

Annual Field Trials. CHARLOTTE, N. C., December 20.—The annual field trials of the Irish Setter Club of America will begin at Barber Junction to-morrow with the running of the Derby. The veteran Judge John White, of Hempstead, L. I., will judge the entries for the trials, which will continue three days. The entries for the Derby are few, but some of the most prominent dog fanciers in the country are on the ground, and the trials promise to be of unusual interest. The trials are limited to Irish setters. The Derby purse is worth \$250—\$150 going to the first, \$75 to the second, and \$25 to the third dog.

Gather Mangled Limbs. Ten feet from where Fitzgerald's body lay his arm was picked up and five feet further from his arm the shoe from his right foot was discovered in the middle of the track, almost unscratched. Near the mangled body the basket was found, overturned, its provisions scattered in every direction along the side of the track. The victim's hat lay further away from his body than any other portion of his wearing apparel.

An accident occurred within 300 yards of the residence of Coroner Ashton, and before the life had been extinct in Fitzgerald's body thirty minutes, an inquest was being conducted on the scene. A jury was impaneled, and a verdict returned to the effect that Fitzgerald had come to his death through unavoidable causes, not due to any negligence on the part of the motorman.

Fitzgerald's identity was revealed through a postal card addressed to him, which was found in an inside pocket to his coat. As soon as his home was found to be at Ballston, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company has been doing business in Virginia for nearly forty years, during which time (to November 1, 1908), it has paid 737 death claims, amounting to \$2,575,773, and has deposited \$1,000,000 in three policies, amounting to \$100,000.

FLOYD MACFARLAND, who has just grabbed a world's six-day bicycle racing record, MacFarland

HIGHLANDERS TO PLAY LOCAL TEAM

It will be of much interest to the local fans to know that the New York Americans are to play three games in this city during the month of April.

The Highlanders will start South on March 17, with about thirty-five players. During March games will be played at Athens, Atlanta, and other Georgia cities. On the way North the team will be divided into two sections. Manager Stallings will have charge of the first section, and the captain of the second has not yet been decided. The first team will play the Law-makers April 9th, and the second, on the 10th and 11th. The first team has one game with Lynchburg, while the second has one game each with Danville and Norfolk. Games have been arranged with several other big league teams, and with the fast team Perryville promises to have in this city by that time. Richmond should see some fast exhibition games, the return of the signifiers on the schedule of the signifiers on the First Team—April 5th, Augusta, Ga.; April 6th, Columbia, S. C.; April 7th, Charlotte, N. C.; April 8th, Lynchburg, Va.; April 9th, Richmond, Va.; April 10th, Jersey City, April 11th, Newark, April 12th, Trenton, April 13th, Wilmington, Del. Second Team—April 5th, Savannah, Ga.; April 6th, Charleston, S. C.; April 7th, Wilmington, N. C.; April 8th, Danville, Va.; April 9th, Richmond, Va.; April 10th, and 11th, Baltimore.

LUCAS IN PORTLAND

Lands Position of President of the Northwestern League. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) 20.—LYNCHBURG, Va., December 20.—President W. J. Lucas, of the Northwestern League, who was considered at one time for the presidency of the Virginia League, has located in Portland, Me., where he will maintain his headquarters in the future.

The Northwestern League retained the services of Mr. Lucas when it heard he was angling for him by increasing his salary.

Watson in Central League. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) 20.—LYNCHBURG, Va., December 20.—Lucy Watson, the big third baseman who was with Roanoke in 1906 and with Spartanburg in 1907, has been sold at the close of the season to Mobile, of the Southern League, where he will play with Evans.

Watson is a big fellow, and was one of the heaviest hitters last year in the Carolina Association. In the Central League he hit .224 and batted at .846.

KILLED BRINGING CHRISTMAS GOODS

M. Fitzgerald, of Ballston, Is Knocked Down by a Washington Car.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20.—Returning from Washington with his Christmas provisions, M. Fitzgerald, a prominent citizen of Ballston, Va., was struck by a car of the Great Falls line just below Cherrydale, early this morning and instantly killed.

His left arm was torn from his body and lay several feet away from it when found, while the body was almost completely severed. The head was so badly bruised and cut that no features by which he could be identified remained.

Motorman Downes, in charge of the car which struck Fitzgerald, had practically applied the air brakes, when the form of a man suddenly loomed from the darkness only twenty feet in front of him, but the distance was too close in which to stop the car at the high speed it was going.

Charles Thompson, of New York, although some think that Secretary Newberry will be retained.

Systematic Robbery. PORTLAND, ORE., December 20.—An investigation by the Western Union Telegraph Company, carried on during the past six months, has disclosed an organized system of theft among railroad operators on the Pacific coast, and thousands of its patrons have been robbed of an amount estimated at several hundred thousand dollars, according to a statement made tonight by an official of the company, who is in charge of the investigation.

Numerous complaints received from persons who said that their messages had never been delivered, aroused the Western Union officials to action. A secret service was organized, and it was discovered that in some instances over 50 per cent. of the messages filed at railroad offices were never transmitted.

ENGLAND, JAPAN, UNCLE SAM AGREE

Same Opinion on Most Points for International Prize Courts.

LONDON, December 13.—The Views of the Ten Powers, the delegates from which are assembled here to decide upon a code of laws for the international prize court provided for at the last Hague Conference, make a decidedly bulky volume. Some of the powers, like Japan, have submitted their proposals in the briefest form, while others, notably Great Britain, support their views at length.

The United States, Great Britain and Japan are agreed on the majority of points. The American views include the following suggestions:

A neutral ship found within the limits of a belligerent power may be seized, destroyed or used for warlike purposes, but the proprietors must be indemnified.

In cases where the enemy has not observed the usages of war and the delinquent cannot be captured there may be recourse to reprisals, but always in accordance with the dictates of humanity.

All ships in the public service of the enemy are subject to capture except those employed in purely charitable or scientific work, voyages of discovery and in hospital ships.

Neutral ships employed in naval or military service of the enemy or placed under control of the enemy for naval or military service are subject to capture and destruction.

The right to search a merchant ship when under convoy of a neutral warship, on which Great Britain differs from all other powers, is pressed in the British statement. It is held that a neutral ship should not be entitled to resist search by a belligerent warship on the ground that she is under convoy of a warship of her own nationality.

Forceful resistance by her or by the neutral warship should be ground for condemnation of both ship and cargo.

Great Britain strongly holds her contention, raised during the Russo-Japanese War, that it is the duty of a belligerent captor to bring in for adjudication any neutral ship, and to permit search by a belligerent warship on the ground that she is under convoy of a warship of her own nationality.

Foreboding resistance by her or by the neutral warship should be ground for condemnation of both ship and cargo.

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MORE BUILDING OF THE CABINET

Many Rumors and Many Names Are Now Being Discussed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20.—Cabinet builders at the national capital and those who have moved to Georgia as a part of the entourage of President-Elect Taft are succeeding in placing on the anxious bench public men in all sections of the country who have been looked upon as aspirants for portfolios, or whose qualifications have been urged by admiring friends.

The announcement that Frank H. Hitchcock is to be Postmaster-General followed by that of Senator Knox to be Secretary of State, and the generally accepted report that George W. Wickersham, of New York, will be Attorney-General, indicates that the slate is being made up rapidly.

There seems to be a reasonable certainty that Secretary Wilson will continue for a year or more as the head of the Agricultural Department; that Secretary Garfield will retire from the Cabinet; that Judge Richard A. Ballinger, of Seattle, Wash., will be given a place probably that of Secretary of the Interior; that Luke E. Wright will retire from the Cabinet and again take a post in the diplomatic service, and that an Ohio man will be given the position of Secretary of the Treasury.

Within the last few days the name of Judge Charles Nagel, of Missouri, has been discussed in connection with the secretaryship of the Department of Commerce and Labor. Republican politicians are urging the claims of Missouri, and as Judge Nagel played a prominent part in the campaign, the mantle would fall upon him naturally if a place is given to that State.

Other names heard in connection with that department are those of William Loeb, Jr., secretary to President Roosevelt; Oscar E. Straus, who now has the portfolio, and George A. Knight, of California. It is not believed, however, that two places will go to the Pacific coast.

Among the Ohio men mentioned for Secretary of the Treasury are former Governor Herlick and Representative Burton. The rumor that there has been a break in the cordial relations that have existed between Mr. Burton and Mr. Taft is not generally credited by the friends of both in this city.

For Secretary of War, Charles Macgown, now Governor of Cuba, is heard frequently. Mr. Taft, however, is said to be looking for a man who has made a record as a business man.

William Loeb, Jr., is also mentioned for Secretary of the Navy, as is also Charles Thompson, of New York, although some think that Secretary Newberry will be retained.

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Numerous complaints received from persons who said that their messages had never been delivered, aroused the Western Union officials to action. A secret service was organized, and it was discovered that in some instances over 50 per cent. of the messages filed at railroad offices were never transmitted.

Following the discovery of the theft and the accumulation of proof, warrants were obtained for the arrest of several operators in the State of Washington, and it is alleged by officials of the company that at least one of the arrested men has confessed.

TAFTS TO SUMMER IN NEW ENGLAND

President-Elect and His Brother Have Already Decided This.

AUGUSTA, December 20.—The President-elect said to-night that he was still innocent of being the source of "inspired" or "authoritative" Cabinet stories. His Cabinet, he said, had acquired no additional members since the Knox announcement; no offers of positions were pending, nor had he made any decisions with respect to making offers.

The Summer Colony. That a Taft summer colony may be established somewhere on the New England coast is the earnest hope of the President-elect. He to-night said that he had no intention of summering on Long Island; that while no active endeavors were being made at present, it was the desire of himself and brother to find some place on the New England coast which would be near as possible duplicate the very desirable conditions the family had so long enjoyed during the summer months at Murray Bay, Canada.

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CELEBRATE GREAT EVENT

Feast of Dedication, Commemorating the Birth of Jesus Christ, Observed at Beth Abrahim Synagogue.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—The Beth Abrahim Synagogue yesterday morning celebrated the Feast of the Dedication, which commemorates the Maccabean struggle in the second century of the era before Christ with the Syrians.

The feast, lasting eight days, began on Saturday. It is observed by the burning of candles in the home of all orthodox Jews, one for each day, which will make the feast end next Saturday, or the Hebrew Sabbath.

The pupils celebrated the occasion by addresses from the classes, recitations and special singing. After the exercises candy was distributed among all present.

The Maccabean struggle lasted several years, the Jewish forces being under the command of Judas Maccabeus. They liberated Jerusalem from the investing Syrians, and saved the temple from desecration and destruction. The saving of the holy temple gave the feast its name. It is one of the most important in the Hebrew calendar, and is observed with great enthusiasm.

At Point of Pistol He Overawes Proprietors and Then Escapes.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., December 20.—A negro held at bay four men in the store of Bank & Smith, in the suburbs of the city, early this morning, and forced the establishment of \$200.

The business of the day was over, and the proprietors and two clerks were engaged in computing the day's business when a stranger, a Syrian Jew with pistol drawn, entered the front door, and commanding the men to hold up their hands, an order which they promptly complied with, walked behind the counter, and taking all the money in sight, disappeared in a pine thicket near the store.

For twelve hours city and county officers, with blood hounds from the county farm, have searched for the culprit without result, and to-night they promptly complied with the order, and taking all the money in sight, disappeared in a pine thicket near the store.

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FLOYD MACFARLAND, who has just grabbed a world's six-day bicycle racing record, MacFarland

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BIJOU---All Week
Matinee, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 2:15 P. M.
SPRING, CHERRY, LINDSEY.
MISS CECIL SPOONER
In Two Acts. First Half.
The Dancer and the King
Beginning Thursday Matinee.
"The Girl and the Detective."
ACADEMY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
AL H. (METZ) WILSON.
In His Song Bedecked Play.
"When Old New York Was Dutch."
Prices: 25c. to \$1.50.
ACADEMY---SATURDAY
MATINEE AND NIGHT.
BLANCHE WALSH
IN
THE TEST.
LUBIN THEATRE.
Continues Performance 8:15 to 11 P. M.
Vaudeville, Life Motion Pictures.
Illustrated Songs.
General Admission Free. Ladies and Children at Matinee, 5c.
No Reserved Seats.
The Valentine Museum
ELEVENTH AND CLAY STREETS
OPEN DAILY 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.
Admission 10c. Free on Saturdays.